

## **Information Services Board Briefing Paper on Statewide Information Technology Security Policy Requirements**

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### **Description**

The purpose of this briefing paper is to provide the Information Services Board (ISB) with status information regarding Information Technology (IT) Security as it relates to ISB policy and standard compliance requirements.

### **Recommendations to the Board**

This report is informational only. At the next ISB meeting a report will be provided on agency compliance.

### **Status**

The annual review letters are being sent to the ISB Liaison and are being tracked and logged. Following the October 6<sup>th</sup> compliance audit deadline, ISB staff is planning to survey the agencies to determine who has completed the audit and gather feedback on the process in order to make improvements to the existing IT Security Policy, Standards, and Guidelines.

A concerted effort has been made to assist small agencies in the development of their security program. ISB staff is providing additional resources to address the gaps in the availability of security awareness training, audit preparation assistance and will be completing a training video by the end of September.

### **Issues**

- Several agencies continue to assert that budget constraints affect their ability to provide adequate resources to comply with security policy requirements.
- Agencies have waited until the end of the three-year window to complete their audits and may have difficulty meeting the October 6<sup>th</sup> deadline.

### **Background**

The ISB IT Security Policy and Standards directs agencies to review IT security processes, procedures, and practices at least annually and make appropriate updates after any significant change to their business, computing, or telecommunications environment. The agency head is responsible for oversight of the agency's IT security and will confirm in writing annually by August 31<sup>st</sup> that the IT Security Program has been developed, implemented, and tested.

Additionally, the policy requires agencies to conduct an IT security policy and standards compliance audit once every three years. This audit is a desk review of the documented agency security processes and procedures and the exceptions to the policy and standards are provided only to the agency following the audit. Knowledgeable parties independent of the agency's information technology unit, such as the state auditor, must perform the audit. Agencies must follow audit standards developed and published by the State Auditor. All agencies under the authority of the ISB must have their initial compliance audit done by October 6, 2003